

CIA OPERATIONS CENTER

NEWS ANALYSIS SERVICE

Date: 11 Mar
Item No: 29
Ref No: 27

DIST:

DCI
DDCI
DCI/IC
DDI
DD/M&S
DDO (2)
DDS/T
D/OCI
OSR
OSI (2)
Ch/OpsC
PDB
INDICO
DDO/DO (2)
mea
eap
wh
eur

Noted by D & I
3/12/74

Thuermer

RNR 231

NIGHTLEAD VISIT 2 CARACAS

THE POLITICIANS OF VENEZUELA HAVE PRIVATELY EXPRESSED ANNOYANCE THAT THE UNITED STATES HAS NOMINATED THE DEPUTY-DIRECTOR OF THE CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY (CIA) TO ACCOMPANY THE FIRST LADY ON HER VISIT.

INFORMED SOURCES SAY THE OFFICIAL PRESENCE HERE OF THE DEPUTY DIRECTOR, GENERAL VERNON WALTERS, AS MRS. NIXON'S INTERPRETER IS CONSIDERED A DIPLOMATIC BLUNDER.

MEMBERS OF THE DEMOCRATIC ACTION (AD) PARTY, WHOSE LEADER IS TAKING OVER AS PRESIDENT, ARE ANNOYED AT THE CHOICE BUT HAVE SO FAR LODGED NO COMPLAINT AT THE U.S. EMBASSY HERE, THE SOURCES SAID.

WALTERS HAS BEEN THE OFFICIAL INTERPRETER FOR THE NIXONS ON ALMOST ALL THEIR OVERSEAS VISITS, A U.S. EMBASSY SPOKESMAN SAID.

SECURITY IS EXPECTED TO BE TIGHT FOR MRS. NIXON'S VISIT HERE--HER FIRST SINCE 1958--WHEN SHE AND THE THEN VICE-PRESIDENT WERE SPAT UPON, STONED AND NEARLY LYNCHED BY ANTI-AMERICAN CROWDS IN THE STREETS OF CARACAS.

WALTERS WAS ALSO WITH THEM ON THAT OCCASION.

REUTER 1704

Comments